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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/578,239	01/08/2009	Lodewijk Van Noten	TYR-P0007	8406

27268 7590 01/04/2010

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EXAMINER	
MOONEY, MICHAEL P	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2883	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
01/04/2010	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/578,239	VAN NOTEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	MICHAEL P. MOONEY	2883	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-31* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-10,13,14,17-23 and 26-29* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *11,12,15,16,24,25,30 and 31* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *5/4/06*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-10, 13-14, 17-23, 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hensel (GB 2034069).

Hensel teaches a device for installing an optical fibre in a connector (e.g., fig. 1), comprising: an optical fibre cleaving mechanism 9 9a; a connector holding means (e.g., Specification p. 1 col. 2 lines 125-129 to p. 2 col. 1 lines 1-37; e.g. element 13 and fig. 5); and a fibre insertion mechanism; arranged such that an optical fibre may be cleaved by the cleaving mechanism to produce an end of the fibre (e.g., fig. 1; p. 1 lines 110-129), and the end of the fibre may be inserted by means of the insertion mechanism into a connector held by the connector holding means (e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Thus claim 1 is met.

Furthermore, claims 2-10, 13-14, 17-23, 26-29 are also met by the reasons and references given above (e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125). Thus claims 2-10, 13-14, 17-23, 26-29 are met.

Regarding claim 2, Hensel teaches in which the end of the fibre is inserted into the connector in a predetermined orientation with respect to the connector(e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Regarding claim 3, Hensel teaches in which the cleaving mechanism is arranged to cleave the optical fibre such that an end face of the end of the fibre so produced is oriented at a non-perpendicular angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the fibre110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Regarding claim 4, Hensel teaches in which the insertion of the fibre into the connector by the insertion mechanism is such that the orientation of the non-perpendicular end face of the fibre with respect to the connector is predetermined (e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Regarding claim 5, Hensel teaches comprising a main body within which the cleaving mechanism is located (e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Regarding claim 6, Hensel teaches in which the cleaving mechanism may be accessed by an optical fibre to be cleaved, only by insertion of the fibre through an aperture in the main body (e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Regarding claim 7, Hensel teaches in which the insertion mechanism manipulates the fibre in order to insert the end of the fibre in the connector (e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Regarding claim 8, in which the insertion mechanism moves the cleaved end of the fibre with respect to the connector holder in a direction along a longitudinal axis of the fibre, which axis extends from the cleaved end of the fibre, in order to insert the fibre in a connector (e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Regarding claim 9, Hensel teaches in which the axial movement of the fibre by the insertion mechanism comprises movement of the insertion mechanism to a locking position at which the fibre is fully inserted into the connector (e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Regarding claim 10, Hensel teaches when the insertion mechanism is in its locking position, the insertion mechanism resists removal of the fibre out of the connector, and resilient means of the insertion mechanism applies an insertion force to the fibre (e.g., figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125).

Remaining claims 13-14, 17-23, 26-29 are also taught by Hensel at figs. 1-9; p. 1 line 110 to p. 2 line 37; see also p. 2 line 38 to p. 3 line 125

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11-12, 15-16, 24-25, 30-31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not disclose or render obvious the elements described by respective claims 11-12, 15-16, 24-25, 30-31.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL P. MOONEY whose telephone number is 571-272-2422. The examiner can normally be reached during weekdays, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on 571-272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application lnformation Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Michael P. Mooney/
Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2883

/Frank G. Font/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2883

FGF/mpm
12/14/09